

## Talking to Service Members About Dollars and Sense

Good financial management is a lifelong skill that will pay off time and again. Help your service members improve their overall financial literacy and put their knowledge to the test with the Dollars and Sense simulation – a digital tool that allows them to choose a storyline and guide each character's decisions in a fun and educational way.

Your service members are bound to encounter financial challenges during their careers. How they handle them could affect their lives and employment opportunities in ways they haven't considered. Help them prepare for some of the scenarios they'll likely face after joining the military by encouraging them to explore the Dollars and Sense simulation.

This no-cost resource features videos with multiple storylines and decisions your service members can make to test their financial knowledge and readiness. By assuming the role of Maddie or Anthony, they will walk in each character's shoes to face their challenges and make choices that keep them on track for a lifetime of financial success.

Along the way, your service members will learn tips for building a spending plan, creating financial goals, choosing a financial institution, establishing credit and much more. The simulation also makes it easy to bookmark text and access a comprehensive list of resources anytime, anywhere.

### Resources

- The Office of Financial Readiness: <https://finred.usalearning.gov>
- Dollars and Sense simulation: <https://access.willinteractive.com/ebb4d7c5359d4063f4da/dollars-and-sense>
- "Know the Importance of Financial Literacy, Stability" article: <https://finred.usalearning.gov/Money/FinancialLiteracy>
- "What's Your Spending Personality?" article: <https://finred.usalearning.gov/money/SpendingPersonalities>



### How to Start the Conversation

- "What difficult financial decisions have you faced and how did you process your decision?"
- "What digital financial planning tools are you using?"
- "Where do you go for financial tips and resources?"
- "Have you checked out the Dollars and Sense simulation?"
- "Did you know the simulation provides a list of resources to help you with everything from buying a car to protecting your identity?"
- "It's easy to bookmark helpful tips and advice in the simulation for quick access later on. Would you like me to show you how?"
- "I was able to save money on my cellphone bill using tips from the simulation. Have you taken a look at the resources page?"

- Encourage service members to explore other tools and resources for managing their money on the FINRED website.
- Personal financial managers and counselors can help continue the conversation. Share this contact information for your local PFM or PFC:

- Follow @DoDFINRED on    

